

ABSTRACT

In a bidirectional ring network, in which nodes are mutually connected by network segments, a method of fault protection includes constructing a general mask indicating which of the segments can be reached. For a given data flow to be conveyed through the network from a source node to a destination node, a specific mask is constructed indicating the segments on a desired path of the flow. The general and specific masks are superimposed in order to determine a disposition of the flow.